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September 5, 2012

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: *for* Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **UPDATE ON CONSOLIDATION OF THE ANTELOPE
VALLEY REHABILITATION CENTERS**

This is to provide an update on the progress of the Antelope Valley Rehabilitation Centers (AVRC) consolidation. On October 5, 2010, your Board approved a request from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Department of Public Health (DPH) to consolidate the AVRC Substance Use Disorder residential programs located at Acton and Warm Springs into a single facility.

Background

The AVRC consolidation plan included closure of the Warm Springs' facility and relocation of its program and staffing to the Acton facility. This consolidation was implemented in order to: 1) maximize the use of limited resources for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services; 2) bring the AVRC facility into compliance with State and County licensing and regulatory requirements; and 3) ensure a high quality of AVRC services by renovating the physical infrastructure at Acton, upgrading clinical services, and providing sufficient staffing levels. As reported to the Board on May 21, 2012, the AVRC consolidated its residential treatment programs at the Acton site.

Physical Infrastructure Improvements

DPH, Internal Services Department (ISD), and the Department of Public Works (DPW) have continued to work on the renovation of the Acton facility. The modification and conversion of modular units that will serve as temporary housing and office space is underway with the recertification of the units completed by the State Housing Authority.

As reported in the May 2012 update, the renovation of the dining hall and kitchen is in progress, and is scheduled for completion by September 17, 2012. Interim fixes to the cottages are expected to be complete by November 2012. We are working the Chief Executive Office to develop an alternative long-term solution for program location, and will return to your Board with recommendations in October 2012.

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Programs and Services

Training continues for AVRC staff members on the delivery of SUD evidence-based practices. During this period, staff received training in HIV/HEP C/STD Education, Motivational Interviewing, Complex Trauma in Young Adults and Screening, Brief Interventions, Referral to Treatment (SBIRT).

Personnel

DPH is working to fill current vacancies. Since the last update, the Clinical Supervisor and Recreational Aid positions have been filled. In addition, two Substance Abuse Counselors and a Substance Abuse Counselor Aid were selected and are in various stages of processing.

Next Steps

We will continue to provide your Board quarterly progress updates on the renovation and the development of the AVRC. In the meantime, please let me know if you have any questions or would like additional information.

JEF:hm
PH: 1012:002

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors